

Message Text

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SUBJECT: GDR MEDIA ON ROCKEFELLER VISIT

1. THE ROCKEFELLER VISIT RECEIVED EXTENSIVE MENTION IN THE GDR MEDIA BUT, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF A LENGTHY ADN ITEM ON PAGE 8 OF THE JUNE 7/8 EDITION OF NEUES DEUTSCHLAND, THE PRESS TREATMENT WAS PERFUNCTORY. AN INFORMAL EMBASSY TRANSLATION OF THE ADN ARTICLE, HEADED BY A PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN AT THE ROCKEFELLER-STOPH ENCOUNTER AND THE HEADLINE "CONVERSATION REGARDING QUESTIONS OF MUTUAL INTEREST; PRESIDENT (SIC) OF THE CHASE MANHATTAN BANK WITH GDR REPRESENTATIVES", FOLLOWS:

2. "THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE OF THE GDR, WILLI STOPH, ON FRIDAY RECEIVED THE PRESIDENT OF THE CHASE MANHATTAN BANK, DR. DAVID ROCKEFELLER, FOR A DISCUSSION OF QUESTIONS OF MUTUAL INTEREST.

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3. "THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF THE PRINCIPLES OF PEACEFUL CO-EXISTENCE FOR THE RELATIONS OF STATES WITH DIFFERING SOCIAL SYSTEMS. HE WELCOMED THE ACTIVITIES OF AMERICAN PUBLIC PERSONALITIES WHO SHARE THE VIEW OF THE GDR THAT MEMBERSHIP OF COUNTRIES IN OPPOSING SOCIETAL SYSTEMS AND THE EXISTENCE OF DIFFERING VIEWS ON MANY QUESTIONS NEED POSE NO OBSTACLE TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF FRUITFUL AND MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL COOPERATION. BOTH PARTNERS TO THE CONVERSATIONS AGREED TO AND EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF SUCH MEETINGS. DAVID ROCKEFELLER STATED THAT A POLICY ORIENTED TOWARD PEACE AND DETENTE IS A PRECONDITION FOR FRUITFUL COOPERATION BETWEEN COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES.

4. "D. ROCKEFELLER WAS RECEIVED THE SAME DAY BY CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF THE GDR, HORST SINDERMAN. HORST SINDERMAN EMPHASIZED THAT THE DEVELOPMENT OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE GDR AND THE US ON THE FOUNDATION OF PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE IS IN THE INTERESTS OF PEACE AND DETENTE AND SERVES (TO PROMOTE) INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION. IN THIS CONNECTION, HE STRESSED THE INTEREST OF THE GDR IN THE EXPANSION OF TRADE BETWEEN BOTH COUNTRIES. THE GDR IS CONFIDENT THAT THE VISIT WILL CONTRIBUTE TO THE STRENGTHENING AND THE BROADENING OF RELATIONS BETWEEN BOTH COUNTRIES.

5. "D. ROCKEFELLER ALSO HAD A CONVERSATION WITH THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OSKAR FISCHER. THERE WAS ALSO ON FRIDAY A JOINT MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT OF THE GDR STATE BANK, HORST KAMINSKY, AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE DEUTSCHE AUSSENHANDELSBANK, A.G., DR. HELMUT DIETRICH.

6. "ROCKEFELLER: CONVERSATIONS MOST INTERESTING AND USEFUL. DURING HIS PRESS CONFERENCE IN BERLIN ON FRIDAY, DR. DAVID ROCKEFELLER DESCRIBED HIS CONVERSATIONS WITH LEADING GDR PERSONALITIES AS MOST INTERESTING AND USEFUL. THEY PROVIDED HIM WITH A MORE UNCLASSIFIED

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COMPREHENSIVE UNDERSTANDING OF GDR GOALS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS. NOW THAT DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN THE US AND GDR EXIST, IT WOULD BE NATURAL TO DEVELOP TRADE AND CULTURAL TIES. 'I WOULD LIKE TO HOPE THAT MY VISIT, AND OTHER SIMILAR VISITS, WILL CONTRIBUTE TO SPEEDING UP THE PROCESS OF NORMALIZING RELATIONS.'

7. "THE PRESIDENT OF THE CHASE MANHATTAN BANK EXPRESSED

APPRECIATION FOR THE HOSPITALITY ACCORDED HIM DURING
HIS VISIT BY THE GDR GOVERNMENT. HE WAS LAST IN
BERLIN IN 1945 AS A SOLDIER. ONE COULD ONLY
DESCRIBE AS DRAMATIC THE CHANGES THAT HAD OCCURRED
IN THE APPEARANCE OF THE CITY. 'OF SPECIAL INTEREST
FOR ME WAS TO SEE HOW THE VALUABLE HISTORIC SITES HAVE
BEEN RESTORED AND RECONSTRUCTED.' HE WAS ALSO
IMPRESSED AT THE REALIZATION OF AN ENTIRELY NEW
CITY PLANNING CONCEPTION IN AREAS OF GREAT DESTRUCTION."
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